

## STRANGE CULTS FOLLOWED BY MANY WOMEN OF UNITED STATES

Vedantism Making Powerful Strides, Says Writer of Facts

"Strange Gods of American Women" is the way in which the Literary Digest sums up a review of an article by one American woman, Mrs. Gross Alexander, in which some remarkable facts concerning the subject are given. The paper says:

The churches of America are spending annually more than \$20,000,000 for foreign missions; but from the very fields where all this money is garnered, the Eastern religions, against which these efforts are made, are gathering their harvest also. The East is sending its emissaries to us, and today the tinkling temple-bells of the heathendom ring out with a delectable jarring sound, not only in the Far East, but in many sections of Christian America. It is the women who are mainly infected, points out Mrs. Gross Alexander in The Metadist Quarterly Review (Nashville, July). "Yoga" classes, which were first made fashionable by the society set, have become in many cities a popular as Browning and Shakespeare classes. "Placing the Hindu Scripture above the Bible, many women today are studying these teachings who were formerly Baptists, Methodists, Presbyterians, Episcopalians, Catholics, and Jewsesses." The present writer quotes from another woman, Mabel Potter Daggett, who has investigated certain centers of Eastern thought, particularly that one located at Green Acre, N. H., where are held annual summer meetings.

Most recruits among women. "Although the Swamis' following includes some men of learning and college professors who wish to investigate a science brought from the roof of the world, most of its recruits are among women. A greater menace than of image-worship lurks in the teachings of the Hindu Mystics. The casual observer would not discover it. Only those who reach the inner circles become acquainted with the mysteries revealed to the adepts. The descent from Christianity to heathenism is by such easy stages that the novice scarcely realizes she is led. But it is a dangerous study for luring any but the best-balanced minds. In the pursuit of it the listening devotee is offering sacrifices many times at the cost of her mind and soul. Miss Farmer was a familiar figure for years, attending the Green Acre School, for which she gave her fortune. But living in the atmosphere of that strange and impenetrable cult, unbalanced her mind, and she is now an inmate of the insane asylum in Waverly, Mass. In Chicago a few years ago, Miss Reuss, a Jewess of culture and refinement, was taken screaming and crying from the Magdalen Temple of the Sun, to be incarcerated as a raving maniac in an Illinois asylum. At the death of Mrs. Ole Bull, of Cambridge, Mass., widow of the world-renowned violinist, she bequeathed several hundred thousand dollars to the Vedantist Society. But it was set aside by the courts on the ground of mental incapacity and undue influence. Mrs. May Wright Sewell, the club-woman of national repute, is said to be a physical wreck through the practices of Yoga and the study of occultism. Many more examples could be cited of wrecked minds lost through the pursuit of this philosophy."

Vedantism The Core. The core of Hinduism that is studied in this country, says Mr. Robert E. Speer, as quoted by the author, "is the Vedanta philosophy, the old pantheism of India read full of new meaning through contact with Western thought and Christianity." "There is always generous room in its pathos," he adds, "for any new god not already listed. . . . There have been so many interpolations and modifications to suit the peoples of all sections and countries that there is the widest range of thought possible, and no divine objectionable to Western sensibilities is forced on one." One of the Hindu priests who came to America was Baba Bharati, "formerly a hill hermit from Tibet." After the first five years of his stay in America he made preparations to return for a time in India, and a farewell meeting "was presided over by a former minister of the Gospel." At this meeting Baba Bharati said:

"It has been my privilege these five years past to preach to you your own Christ, even as much as my god Krishna. I came not here to thrust my religion upon you, but to help you to understand your own God and your own religion. If I have talked of Krishna and of the Vedas and Hindu philosophy, it was only to illuminate the teachings of your own Christ, to present him before you in the light of the Vedas, and the x-ray of our scientific philosophers."

The Sun-Worshippers. This article also deals with another form of Eastern worship practiced in many cities of the United States—namely, "the teachings and practices of sun-worship, under the God Salsam Aleikum, the supreme lord of the Zend-Avesta, of whom Zoroaster was the great prophet." Mrs. Daggett is quoted to this effect:

"A least fourteen thousand Americans are joining daily in this worship of the Lord Mazda and the daily adoration of the Sun. There are Mazdaznan centers in thirty cities of the United States, as well as in Canada, South America, England, Germany, and Switzerland, and they are all the remarkable growth of the past ten years! It was about 1901 that 'His Humbleness, the Prince of Peace,' appeared in Chicago. His largest temple is located there on Lake Park Avenue, while his lesser one stands on the lawn of Dr. Hilton's residence, in Lowell; and ground has been consecrated for a third temple in Montreal. That the Sun may do its perfect work, the cult encourages the wearing of as little clothing as the law allows. 'Her Blessedness,' Mrs. Hilton, is believed to have once been the Queen of Sheba, and hence her present high rank. She is said to be a cultured and handsome woman, with old mysteries slumbering in the depths of her beautiful eyes. . . . They offer, through their religion, to bring peace and beauty to those who seek it as their hands."

Fresh Violets as Food. "Meat is rigidly eschewed. Fresh violets and sheep sorrel are served for breakfast, tea is brewed from rose-leaves. A pinch of brown sand is taken at intervals, to give tone to the stomach. Then there are classes in breathing and concentration. And when all dieting, bathing, and breathing fall to bring beauty, there are cosmetics sold on the side that supplement the results."

Other branches of Hinduism are being introduced, one of which, "the tantric," declares Mrs. Alexander, "represents the climax of Eastern abominations, and its Hindu idolatry in its vilest stage." For "its rites are much in common with the worship of Baal and Moloch by the ancient Assyrians. Thus it is the Hinduism that reaches, in its myriad ramifications and wide span, from the heights of the Bhagavad Gita to the lowest and most revolting heathen idolatry that has brought to America the Yoga philosophy, with its strange and unaccountable charms for a certain class of educated women. The devotees of this cult are by no means confined to the extreme East or West. Branch societies, with Swamis in charge, are maintained in Pittsburgh, Washington, Chicago, St. Louis, Denver, and San Francisco, to say nothing of the many circles and clubs in smaller places. Is it any wonder that missionaries on the foreign field, hearing of these strange facts, are sending to their home offices in New York and Boston the peremptory inquiry, 'What do women of Christian America mean?'"

### NEGRO PROVES TO BE FAILURE AS MISSIONARY

White Propagandist, Back on Furlough, Says Natives Resist Own Race

That the negro missionary from America to Africa is a failure is the opinion of the Rev. C. P. Hedges, missionary to Bolenge, Africa, supported by the First Christian Church, of Mexico, Mo., says an exchange. Hedges is home on a year's furlough after three years' work in the Congo region. He declares the negro who has been reared and educated in America does not have the prestige with the native African that the white missionary has. "Without the protection of a benevolent white government our work in the wilds of Africa would be impossible," he said. "The native does not look upon the American negro missionary as his superior in knowledge, and the negro missionary is loath to look upon the native as his brother. Where the missionary has no influence, his work counts for nothing."

"In 1808 a colony of free negroes from America was established in Liberia. Even now, after a lapse of more than a century, a dialect of broken English is spoken by some of the people of Liberia, but had it not been for the missionaries and the protection of white governments the colony would have been lost entirely."

"The natives did not take to their black brothers from across the seas, and the newcomers were afraid of their jungle kin. The American negroes went into the forests, and instead of progressing, went backward. In Liberia, however, among the negroes who had been colonized from America, the work of the negro missionary was partially successful."

"Within 100 years our people in the Congo, the Bankundus, will be further advanced than the mass of the American negroes. Our people are on a higher plane mentally than were the ancestors of the large majority of the negroes in this country, who principally were from the Guinea coast. The negroes captured and brought here in an early day were from Guinea principally for the reason that they were more easily obtained. It was on the Guinea coast the slave flourished in his ill-famed traffic. It is true that in many instances slaves who were sold in the coast had been captured father in the interior, but the African forests in those days were not favored by the slave hunters. The Bankundus live a thousand miles from the mouth of the Congo."

"I believe, in time, under the refining influence of governments of benevolent intentions, such as the United States and Great Britain, the Bankundus will be able to establish self-government in a modified form. This, however, must be under the protection of a white government."

"The worst evil we have to combat in the Congo is voodooism. I suppose it is general in the African wilds. It is the first thing we campaign against. Our superior knowledge of medicines and the treatment of diseases aid greatly in stamping out this fiendish practice."

"Voodooism is prevalent, right here in America and the rites and ceremonies are very similar to those practiced in the African jungle. American voodooism is but relic of jungle days. It originated in Africa and was brought here by the slaves in an early day from their native land."

## "HOW TO MAKE A GREAT RACE" TO BE SUBJECT

"How to Make a Great Race" is the subject of the address with which the Rev. Frank Goodspeed will open the series of Sunday evening union services at the Bijou theater and in this address, the Oakland preacher will discuss one phase of the subject "Eugenics."

Bishop Restarick, president of the Interchurch Federation, will preside at the meeting and other clergymen of the city will have parts in the order of service. Stanley Livingston will lead the congregational singing and favorite selections will be rendered by the Central Union male quartet consisting of Messrs Wall, Hill, Livingston and Brown.

An invitation has been extended to the general public to attend this service which is the first of a series of four to be held at the Bijou theater every Sunday evening during the month of August.

### RIDE THEIR CAYUSES INTO HOTEL PARLORS

Pendleton Elks Pull Off Real Wild Western Stunts About Town

PORTLAND, Ore., July 12.—Riding their cayuses into hotel parlors, elevators and saloons, the Pendleton Elks in their costumes of cowpunchers and Indians raised particular Cain last night. All the stunts of a Western cow town were reproduced in the metropolitan caravansaries with the exception of "shootin' up." Guns were kept in holsters.

Whooping like regulation Indians, a bunch of the Pendleton Elks in their war paint followed the cowboy band on horseback. Then there were other Pendletonians straddling the cayuses. The riders pushed their way through the crowd to the Elks' Temple, and after a couple of false starts the cowboys rode the horses up to the third floor and into the clubrooms. The horses were offered refreshments and then back down the three flights the cayuses went.

Next the cowboys and Indians invaded the lobby of the Imperial, creating an intense commotion. Again the nags were ridden into the bar, the cowboys swinging low, hanging on the side of the horses by one leg and arm, while the horses ducked their heads. From the Imperial the parade proceeded to the Hotel Portland, and here the riders pranced up the steps to the lobby and showed how to dance the turkey trot. Downstairs to the bar and out again into the crowd.

Determined on showing the horses a good time and giving them a touch of high life, the cowpunchers swept back to the Imperial and rode the animals up to the third floor, where the Pendleton Elks had their headquarters. From this floor the horses were sent back to the lobby by means of the elevator, one horse filling a cage. The Multnomah Hotel was selected next. Indians, horses and riders marched and yelled all the way, and reaching the big establishment, the procession piled in, making a noise like Bedlam broke loose. The horses were taken to the bar and then down the steps to the Arcadian Garden. The cayuses seemed to enjoy drinking from the buckets of beer and the pans filled with seltzer water. The horses sloshed their noses in the fountain, while one Indian waded in to see if he could cool his ardor.

### PUTTING NATURAL GAS TO GOOD USE

Many Pittsburghers will recall the skepticism manifested by Eastern capital a quarter of a century ago when it was urged to aid in financing the extension of natural gas in the Pittsburgh district. The Easterners came, they saw the gas blazing in office grates and under mill and factory boilers, they were taken to the "hole in the ground" where the roar of the fluid deadened all other sounds—and then they went back home to tie another knot in their purse strings for fear those crazy gas men would hypnotize them into doing something rash. Even some Pittsburghers began to have doubts when the gas supply ran low on a frosty morning, because they did not know the real trouble was a shortage of funds to drill wells, and not exhaustion of nature's reservoir. Similar misgivings accompanied the developments of the oil fields of Western Pennsylvania.

These memories are revived by happening to glance at the monthly report of field operations compiled by the Derrick of Oil City, which it has been publishing for forty years. Its figures for June show that during the past month more than 5010 wells were completed in the fields east of the Mississippi, which added nearly 59,000 barrels of oil to the daily production. Of the total, 491 wells were completed in the territory which produces Pennsylvania grade oil, the highest on the market, and fifty-six of the wells completed in what is graded as the Pennsylvania territory are producers of gas in commercial quantities. The total number of producing gas wells completed last month in the fields east of the Mississippi was 131, against 120 producers, completed in May. The farmers of the prairie States of the Middle West and the cotton planters of the South are now enjoying the benefits of oil and gas which were pioneered by the men of Western Pennsylvania, and capital galore is ready for investment in ever-legitimate enterprise connected with the industry.—Pittsburgh Gazette.

## GREAT EDUCATOR ON PRESENT NEED

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., July 25.—

"The new and important thing in education today is industrial education, and the wise city is that one which makes provision for the preparation of its citizens for the industrial pursuits."

This statement was made by Dr. Albert Bushnell Hart, noted American author and historian and professor of government in Harvard University, in San Francisco yesterday afternoon, shortly after his arrival at the Bellevue Hotel. Dr. Hart came up from Los Angeles, where he has been in attendance at the convention of the National Municipal League, and is accompanied by Mrs. Hart.

Continuing his remarks on education, Dr. Hart said he would not have industrial education secured at the expense of literary culture, for a literary education is also a practical one, but the brickmaker has his place of importance in our industrial and economic life, as well as the engineer and mathematician. Dr. Hart said that this new phase was finding expression in the summer courses and vacation schools of the country, notably in Los Angeles, where training in the industrial crafts is afforded.

Speaking of the new archaeological discoveries that have been made in Mesopotamia and South America as related to history, Dr. Hart said:

"Historical discoveries are of little importance unless they throw some valuable light upon the present living questions. The searching expedition to Peru has reported finding a resemblance between the ancient Peruvian races and the Egyptians of early history, but we do not wish to know about this. Of what value is it? The statues of Khammarabai engraved on stone 4000 years ago, which have been unearthed in the valley of the Euphrates, are of some value, because they show how old are some of the rules of life and conduct, but little else of importance has been discovered by the searches for ancient remains. What is most important to know is the history we are making today. We have discovered that the present relations of men in making government is more important than the chronicles of those who lived under the ancient Athenian or the feudal system."

Dr. Hart said that he was greatly interested in the new city charter being formulated for Los Angeles. He said Los Angeles would be the largest city in the United States to try out the commission form of city government and Eastern municipalities are watching the Southern city with the closest interest. He approves the provisions now tentatively drafted giving greater room for the extension of governmental powers and for safeguarding the public property. The new charter will mark a great progressive step in municipal government, he said.

This is Dr. Hart's second visit here, he having lectured in the University of California eight years ago. At present he is exchange professor for Harvard with four Western colleges—Knox of Galesburg, Ill.; Beloit of Wisconsin, Grinnell of Iowa and the Colorado College of Denver. Dr. Hart stated that the system of exchanging university professors was doing great things in harmonizing human thought and knowledge throughout the world and making the different peoples better acquainted, and pointed to the work accomplished in France, Germany and Japan through the exchange of instructors of these countries with American educators.

### BIDS ARE OPENED FOR PEARL HARBOR QUARTERS

Bids were opened in Washington this morning for the construction of the officers' quarters at Pearl Harbor, a job for which there is \$67,000 available at the present time. It is understood that two local firms, the Lord-Young Engineering Co., and the Honolulu Planning Mill Co., and a concern which is now operating here, the Spalding Engineers, Co., of Portland, have all tendered proposals, which were forwarded some time ago.

The plans call for a commandant's house, and five other sets of officers' quarters. The buildings were designed in the office of the navy engineers here, and are especially adapted for the tropics, having broad lanais, cool rooms and plenty of shade. When completed they will be by far the most attractive government living quarters in Hawaii.

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ARMY BOARD MAKES FIRST FIELD TRIP,  
AUG. 1 BREAKS HEAT RECORD,

Are titles of news items that appeared in this paper YESTERDAY—twenty-four hours ago—and were given to the public while they were news.

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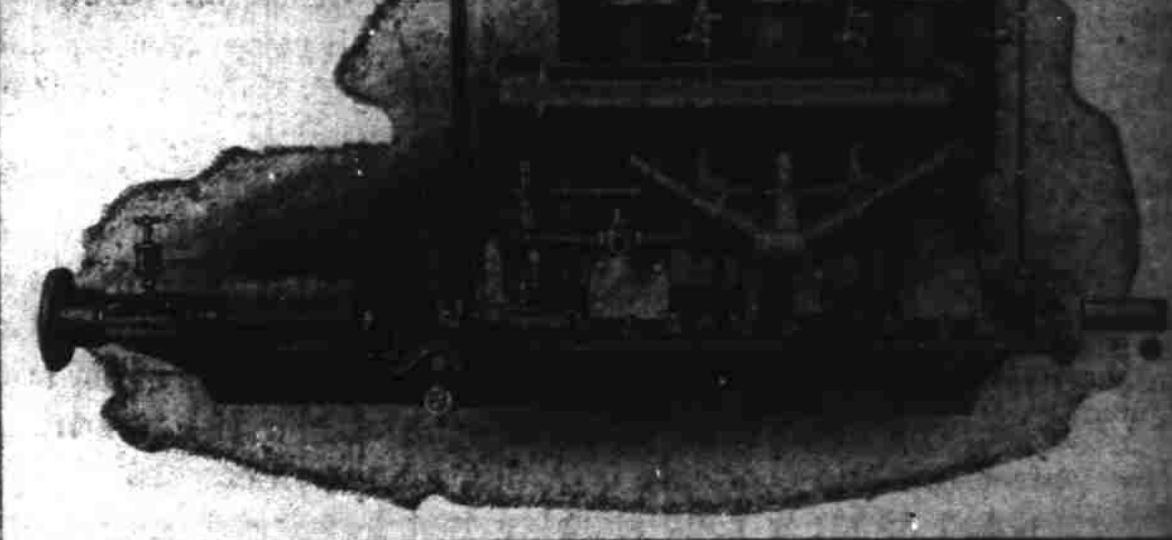
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